

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/502,212

Examiner

Naresh Vig

Applicant(s)

GAWLER, DAVID ANTHONY

Art Unit

3629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communication filed 20 July 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 14-26.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 20070629
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

This is in reference to communication received 29 June 2007.

Drawings

The drawings have been approved by the examiner.

Reason For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's invention is directed to apparatus and method for accounting of postage charges for plurality of batches of mail items concurrently being processed for franking. Applicant's invention stores accumulated pending values of postage dispensed for each of uncompleted batch of mail items while applying postage charges to mail items belonging to one of the plurality of concurrent batch of mail items. When postage is applied to all mail items belonging to a batch, accumulated postage value is decremented by a value of postage relating to the completed batch of mail items.

Regarding Method Claim 14 and Apparatus Claim 23

Prior art Herring US Patent 6,064,992 teaches:

storing an accumulated aggregate value of postage dispensed in applying postage charges to mail items;

storing accumulated pending value of postage dispensed in applying postage charges to mail items belonging to batch.

decrementing applied postage on a mail item from postage available for dispensing.

Prior art Herring US Patent 6,064,992 does not teach:

storing an accumulated pending value of postage dispensed in applying postage charges to mail items for the mail items of each respective uncompleted batch of mail items; and

in response to completion of one batch of mail items, decrementing the accumulated pending value by a value of postage relating to the one completed batch of mail items.

Prior art DirecTV teaches:

concept of in response to completion of a batch, decrementing the available credit available to the user.

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Prior art DirecTV does not teach:

storing an accumulated pending value of postage dispensed in applying postage charges to mail items for the mail items of each respective uncompleted batch of mail items; and

in response to completion of one batch of mail items, decrementing the accumulated pending value by a value of postage relating to the one completed batch of mail items.

Prior art Herring European Publication EP 806746 A2 teaches:

storing an accumulated aggregate value of postage dispensed in applying postage charges to mail items;

storing accumulated pending value of postage dispensed in applying postage charges to mail items belonging to batch.

decrementing applied postage on a mail item from postage available for dispensing.

Prior art Herring European Publication EP 806746 A2 does not teach:

storing an accumulated pending value of postage dispensed in applying postage charges to mail items for the mail items of each respective uncompleted batch of mail items; and

in response to completion of one batch of mail items, decrementing the accumulated pending value by a value of postage relating to the one completed batch of mail items.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naresh Vig whose telephone number is (571) 272-6810. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu 7:00 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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September 12, 2007